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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/823,486	03/30/2001	Karen I. Trovato	US010009	6530

24737 7590 07/16/2004

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS  
P.O. BOX 3001  
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER
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HA, DAC V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2634

DATE MAILED: 07/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/823,486

Applicant(s)

TROVATO, KAREN I.

Examiner

Dac V. Ha

Art Unit

2634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3-5 and 7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6 and 8-22 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3,4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Objections***

1. **Claims 1-22** are objected to because of the following informalities:

**Claim 1:**

Line 7, "the selection" should be change to "a selection".

Line 10, "said set" should be changed to "said set of transitions".

Line 12, "said set" should be changed to "said set of transitions".

**Claim 3:**

Line 7, "the selection" should be changed to "a selection".

Line 10, "said set" should be changed to "said set of transitions".

Line 12, "said set" should be changed to "said set of transitions".

Lines 20-21, "said first and second paths" should be changed to "the first and second paths".

**Claim 6:**

Lines 7-8, "the selection" should be changed to "a selection".

Line 11, "said set" should be changed to "said set of transitions".

Line 13, "said set" should be changed to "said set of transitions".

Lines 20-21, "said path of lowest cost" should be changed to "said path of lowest found cost".

**Claim 7:**

Lines 7-8, "the selection" should be changed to "a selection".

Line 11, "said set" should be changed to "said set of transitions".

Line 13, "said set" should be changed to "said set of transitions".

Lines 21-22, "said first and second paths" should be changed to "the first and second paths".

**Claim 8:**

Line 7, "said choices" should be changed to "said set of interconnected choices".

Lines 8-9, "said starting one" should be changed to "said starting one of said set of interconnected choices".

Line 12, "said quantizer choices" should be changed to "the quantizer choices".

**Claim 9:**

Line 3, "each of set of portions" should be changed to "said each of a set of portions".

**Claim 13:**

Line 9, "said choices" should be changed to "said set of interconnected choices".

Line 10, "said starting one" should be changed to "said starting one of said set of interconnected choices".

Line 14, "said quantizer choices" should be changed to the quantizer choices".

**Claim 18:**

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Line 9, "said choices" should be changed to "said set of interconnected choices".

Line 10, "said starting one" should be changed to "said starting one of said set of interconnected choices".

Line 18, "said quantizer choices" should be changed to the quantizer choices".

Line 19, "said first and second paths" should be changed to "the first and second paths".

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. **Claims 3-5, 7** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

4. **Claim 3** recites the limitation "said costs" in line 20. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim (i.e., there are more than one "cost" recited in claim 3 before the recitation of "said cost", thus it's not clear which "cost" the recitation "said costs" being referred to).

5. **Claim 5** recites the limitation "said input video data" in lines 1-2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

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6. **Claim 7** recites the limitation "said costs" in line 21. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim (i.e., there are more than one "cost" recited in claim 7 before the recitation of "said cost", thus it's not clear which "cost" the recitation "said costs" being referred to).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

7. Claims 1-22 are allowed.

***Conclusion***

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Geisler et al. (US 6,252,989) disclose Foveated Image Coding System And Method For Image Bandwidth Reduction.

Zabinsky (US 5,995,670) discloses Simplified Chain Encoding.

Weiman et al. (US 5,103,306) disclose Digital Image Compression Employing A resolution Gradient.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dac V. Ha whose telephone number is 703-306-5536.

The examiner can normally be reached on 5/4.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Chin can be reached on 703-305-4714. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dac V. Ha", with a horizontal line underneath.

Dac V. Ha  
Examiner  
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